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00:01:11.460 --> 00:01:16.350

Jeff Bornstein (he/him): Welcome to meet the partners saving lives in partnership with youth engagement.

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00:01:17.520 --> 00:01:29.670

Jeff Bornstein (he/him): My name is Jeff bornstein and I will be running this dialogue for health web forum with my colleague Marlene Tucker we want to thank our partner for today's event the national overdose prevention network.

8

00:01:31.710 --> 00:01:32.190

Jeff Bornstein (he/him): Next slide.

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00:01:33.240 --> 00:01:43.830

Jeff Bornstein (he/him): except for those scheduled to speak, all other microphones have been muted to reduce background noise, you can listen to the audio through your computer speakers or connected headphones.

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00:01:44.730 --> 00:01:53.100

Jeff Bornstein (he/him): We encourage you to share your thoughts and questions about today's event by typing them in the Q amp a box and will answer as many as time allows.

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00:01:53.760 --> 00:02:02.730

Jeff Bornstein (he/him): click on the Q amp a button located on the zoom control bar at the bottom of your screen the Q amp a panel will appear then type your question and click send.

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00:02:03.840 --> 00:02:12.690

Jeff Bornstein (he/him): Closed caption is also available just click on the live transcript button on the zoom control bar and select the option to view captioning.

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00:02:14.940 --> 00:02:27.000

Jeff Bornstein (he/him): Now it's time to meet the Moderator of today's event Dr Carmen return of our as Dr Navarro is is the public health institute's senior Vice President of external relations and preventative medicine.

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00:02:27.750 --> 00:02:43.860

Jeff Bornstein (he/him): The Director of the Center for health leadership in practice and director of dialogue for health for the Public Health Institute, she is also the director of the California opioid prevention network and the national overdose prevention network welcome Carmen.

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00:02:46.290 --> 00:02:52.830

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: Thank you so much Jeff so before we get started, I want to cover the objectives for today's short 30 minute session.

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00:02:53.160 --> 00:02:57.900

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: And please, I want to encourage everyone put your questions and your comments into the Q amp a.

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00:02:58.230 --> 00:03:04.050

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: So that we can inform this conversation as we're going along with your thoughts and also try to answer your most pressing questions.

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00:03:04.470 --> 00:03:10.920

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: So for today, we want to do is just a really brief introduction, if you haven't already heard it to the national overdose prevention network.

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00:03:11.580 --> 00:03:23.160

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: Talk about the role of youth engagement in overdose prevention that will be our focus for today and also we're going to dive into how we can build effective partnerships with youth engagement organizations.

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00:03:24.150 --> 00:03:33.600

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: Just so we can get a sense of who's in the room we're going to do a quick poll and i'd like everybody to please just quick click on where you fall in this category.

21

00:03:34.080 --> 00:03:39.690

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: Are you already partnering with or do you represent a youth engagement organization.

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00:03:40.320 --> 00:03:53.610

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: The traces are yes, no or I am a member of the

Youth engagement organization, so please go ahead and and and click your answer in there and we appreciate knowing who you are before we really get into things.

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00:03:54.660 --> 00:03:59.730

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: So first let's talk about what an open is and what we can do to support your work in.

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00:04:01.260 --> 00:04:14.610

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: Our team at the Public Health Institute Center for leadership in practice launched a statewide forum for all coalition's organizations and individuals working to combat the opioid crisis in California.

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00:04:15.180 --> 00:04:25.170

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: Through that work we've built a successful statewide learning network that serves 33 million Californians Okay, you want to bring up the next slide there we go yes that's right there, thank you.

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00:04:26.040 --> 00:04:35.280

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: um our success is also based upon our experience running a national leadership academy and the Office etc just serve more than 125 communities nationwide.

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00:04:35.970 --> 00:04:42.390

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: here's what we've learned about what it takes to drive local change for complex problems like opiate overdose deaths.

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00:04:42.750 --> 00:04:49.860

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: The ingredients are strong partnerships stopping overdose deaths requires collaboration with key partners for your community.

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00:04:50.460 --> 00:04:54.810

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: leveraging assets already in your Community if you want better results from your efforts.

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00:04:55.290 --> 00:05:12.030

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: bring together and help to galvanize the energy and the efforts of local leaders to implement Community driven

initiatives that are aligned with evidence based practices work across sectors by bringing everyone to the table adopt what works and don't reinvent the wheel.

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00:05:13.140 --> 00:05:21.720

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: And we focus on key evidence strategies for evidence prevention you'll see prevent manage treat and stop framework and much of what we do.

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00:05:22.050 --> 00:05:31.470

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: we're taking this work nationwide to help you save lives with partnerships strategies and resources for overdose prevention so let's take a look at the poll results.

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00:05:34.710 --> 00:05:46.410

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: Okay, so we have 50% of you out there, thank you so much, are already partnering with youth engagement organizations and 6% of you are youth engagement organization so.

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00:05:46.770 --> 00:05:55.740

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: let's get the conversation underway and see how we can develop some concrete thinking about how to do even more work when working with.

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00:05:57.060 --> 00:06:05.640

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: Youth engagement organizations so i'm really pleased to welcome Graziella Russell who's the harm reduction coordinator at safe horizon.

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00:06:06.690 --> 00:06:14.280

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: Who leads the street work project and the lower East side of New York City she began working in St work at two in.

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00:06:15.780 --> 00:06:27.630

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: First, as an overnight outreach worker and then as a youth advocate running the drop in Center and then as a case manager, for the past two years she's been working.

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00:06:28.320 --> 00:06:40.110

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: On at the harm reduction as a harm reduction coordinator specializing in separate drug use overdose prevention and reversal, as well as safety planning with homeless youth.

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00:06:40.680 --> 00:06:48.570

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: Graziella is most passionate about working with street homeless and at risk youth getting narcan kits into as many hands as possible.

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00:06:49.410 --> 00:07:01.920

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: advocating for safer consumption spaces as a harm reduction tactic to prevent fatal overdoses across the others focus is to provide unconditional love and support to homeless youth.

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00:07:02.400 --> 00:07:12.150

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: And to advocate for safer consumption spaces within expanded naloxone access welcome what is yellow i'm so pleased to have you with us today.

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00:07:13.410 --> 00:07:15.000

Graciela Razo: Would you tell us, for having me.

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00:07:16.320 --> 00:07:23.490

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: start by telling us a little bit about yourself and the role you play at the intersection of youth engagement and substance use.

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00:07:25.050 --> 00:07:31.560

Graciela Razo: Sure yeah so to give you all a little bit of context in which i'm doing this work street work is.

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00:07:31.980 --> 00:07:40.110

Graciela Razo: Actually, four different programs, so we have to drop in centers we have a drop in Center that I work at in the lower East side of Manhattan.

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00:07:40.440 --> 00:07:48.000

Graciela Razo: We also have a drop in Center in Harlem as well as a crisis shelter for young people under 21.

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00:07:48.360 --> 00:07:58.980

Graciela Razo: And we also have an overnight mobile outreach team that provides services to folks right on the street and encourages encourages them to come to our drop in Center for for their services.

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00:07:59.820 --> 00:08:05.640

Graciela Razo: So we're a harm reduction program and we're also the only youth focus syringe exchange program in New York state.

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00:08:06.000 --> 00:08:17.400

Graciela Razo: So our model is a drop in model, which means that we have you know voluntary low threshold services for young people to come into our drop in.

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00:08:17.760 --> 00:08:29.580

Graciela Razo: Nothing is really required of them, they will have a case manager, who can work on housing with them benefits work general counseling and mental health support, we also have.

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00:08:30.150 --> 00:08:42.120

Graciela Razo: Food hot food throughout the day food is a big part of the work that we do, we also have showers laundry clothing hygiene supplies mental health services, medical services, all on site.

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00:08:43.020 --> 00:08:58.110

Graciela Razo: So, as the harm reduction coordinator, I really work, one on one with our young people on safety planning around different behaviors that can come with various risks, a lot of times that means substance use so.

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00:08:58.860 --> 00:09:09.420

Graciela Razo: You know that means that I am working with the young person on how to safety plan around safer use overdose prevention overdose response and.

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00:09:09.870 --> 00:09:31.050

Graciela Razo: You know, we also can offer ways for folks to minimize their use or whenever folks are ready, if and when they are ready to stop using all together, so we can connect them to various treatment options, we also have a buprenorphine prescriber on site that can you know really help folks.

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00:09:32.070 --> 00:09:34.920

Graciela Razo: Get on that kind of medication to stop using.

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00:09:37.050 --> 00:09:46.470

Graciela Razo: But I think that you know the work that street work does is really addressing substance use from the minute you walk into the drop in making it a really.

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00:09:47.250 --> 00:10:03.300

Graciela Razo: You know, open and honest place to have conversations around substance use I think one of the most important things we do is try to break down the stigma and shame that young people can feel around substance use so.

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00:10:04.620 --> 00:10:11.310

Graciela Razo: yeah I think just having open and honest conversations, is one of the most important supports that we can offer for our young people.

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00:10:12.390 --> 00:10:18.450

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: let's quite a menu of options, I wonder if you would talk a little bit about how you got involved in this work.

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00:10:20.040 --> 00:10:30.270

Graciela Razo: Sure yeah so i've kind of had my hand in a few different social justice projects, before I came to St work, I was involved in like a citizen journalist.

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00:10:31.710 --> 00:10:45.810

Graciela Razo: Social justice project and my early 20s i've done work with the justice and farm workers rights work, and so, when I came to New York I knew that I wanted to spend my time and energy doing.

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00:10:46.740 --> 00:10:50.670

Graciela Razo: meaningful work and just trying to support where I could.

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00:10:51.240 --> 00:11:00.420

Graciela Razo: And you know, for those of us who have been at street work for more than a couple years we always say that street work found us so street work found me and I was.

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00:11:00.810 --> 00:11:08.310

Graciela Razo: able to start doing this work as an overnight outreach worker meeting young folks on the street and connecting them to our

services.

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00:11:09.630 --> 00:11:20.100

Graciela Razo: And it really inspired me to see how street work really respects the autonomy of the young people we work with and advocates for them and.

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00:11:20.520 --> 00:11:33.540

Graciela Razo: Any and every way that we could and I had never really heard of harm reduction, before I came to St work by it really clicked and just resonated with me and the framework that we help our clients.

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00:11:35.190 --> 00:11:54.480

Graciela Razo: And so yeah I think that's that's really where the focus of my work came i'm not a trained social worker i'm completely trained by street work and by the young people I work with they have been definitely the biggest source of knowledge and information for me during this work.

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00:11:55.680 --> 00:12:01.530

Graciela Razo: And you know one client, in particular, who was probably one of my first clients on my caseload really.

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00:12:03.240 --> 00:12:11.100

Graciela Razo: showed me the importance of harm reduction, and you know, seeing the ingenious ways that she took care of herself and.

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00:12:12.180 --> 00:12:29.280

Graciela Razo: You know, when we found out about her passing from an overdose it really almost broke me honestly, but you know it really showed me that there is so much more work to be done so that's how I got started doing this work and that's kind of what keeps me doing this work.

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00:12:31.350 --> 00:12:36.810

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: So thank you for that story i'm sure that was was very, very difficult.

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00:12:38.010 --> 00:12:40.860

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: But it certainly is something to to learn from.

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00:12:42.630 --> 00:13:01.230

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: yeah we have those experiences in this work, many times over what would you mind sharing a little bit about why youth engagement organizations and street outreach programs should be key partners, and what are some of the key successful approaches for partnering with them.

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00:13:03.660 --> 00:13:13.830

Graciela Razo: yeah so I mean when you look at national overdose data and who is affected by overdose and who is also experimenting with drugs.

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00:13:14.160 --> 00:13:25.170

Graciela Razo: you'll see that young people are the largest demographic and so that means that those young people who are experimenting with drugs are oftentimes the most at risk.

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00:13:26.430 --> 00:13:29.460

Graciela Razo: And so you know, I think that.

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00:13:30.780 --> 00:13:37.140

Graciela Razo: Youth engagement is key, and the way that we engage youth is also key and so making.

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00:13:37.950 --> 00:13:54.210

Graciela Razo: organizations and programming, but specifically for youth is really critical and engaging them I think it's you know not super effective to ask a young person to get support from an organization that primarily supports adults.

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00:13:55.170 --> 00:14:04.230

Graciela Razo: So you know for us making programming, that is, by and for the young people, we support is really is really key.

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00:14:04.920 --> 00:14:14.910

Graciela Razo: i'll also talk a little bit about the peers, who I manage street work has a team of peers that goes out on outreach with us, they do different.

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00:14:15.600 --> 00:14:28.110

Graciela Razo: Community events, and I think our peer team has really been a crucial part of our success, because they are young people who

are either current or former clients.

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00:14:28.560 --> 00:14:42.390

Graciela Razo: who have lived experiences using drugs, and so, for us, I think that that's a really important part of the engagement and why we're so effective at our engagement and also.

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00:14:43.200 --> 00:14:56.190

Graciela Razo: Not only in hiring peers, but hiring folks with lived experience hiring people of color hiring people from the Community in which we're aiming to serve I think those are all really important things.

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00:14:57.300 --> 00:15:12.420

Graciela Razo: But mainly having programming specifically for you is really important, in addressing the overdose crisis and trying to involve those young people in those safety planning strategies.

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00:15:13.410 --> 00:15:24.150

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: But that's I think that's really important that you're talking about the role that youth are playing within your organization just sort of in response to one of the questions it's already been raised by the audience.

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00:15:24.990 --> 00:15:36.630

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: i'd like you to talk for a moment about how do you how do you build leaders of how, how does, how do young people get to assume leadership and really take on some leadership within your organization.

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00:15:36.870 --> 00:15:46.770

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: You have internships employment, you know kind of volunteer opportunities, how can you help build up that opportunity, so that young people can learn how to be leaders here.

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00:15:48.600 --> 00:15:50.760

Graciela Razo: yeah, so I think.

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00:15:52.170 --> 00:15:57.180

Graciela Razo: I think one of my favorite parts of my job is managing our team of peers.

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00:15:58.530 --> 00:16:08.430

Graciela Razo: They are critical in US developing our outreach strategy letting us know where young people are congregating where they're sleeping.

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00:16:08.910 --> 00:16:16.680

Graciela Razo: Where they're hanging out during the day also knowing what kind of support they need right and also seeing.

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00:16:17.130 --> 00:16:26.430

Graciela Razo: The trends that we see across the city as far as drug use and, as far as overdoses go they're really on the ground, seeing.

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00:16:27.330 --> 00:16:38.910

Graciela Razo: seeing it firsthand from their peers, so I manage a team of right now three peers and one of my peers has been with us for almost five years.

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00:16:39.360 --> 00:16:47.790

Graciela Razo: And those peers, are the ones who are creating the literature that we create to go into our safer use kits.

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00:16:48.630 --> 00:17:01.470

Graciela Razo: They are the people who are able to escort clients to appointments and so their role in outreach and the harm reduction work that we do is just super critical.

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00:17:02.100 --> 00:17:13.050

Graciela Razo: They also are participating in we're interviewing for a few positions, right now, and so they are the ones who are interviewing potential candidates to really see if our potential.

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00:17:13.920 --> 00:17:23.880

Graciela Razo: Employees are grasping the idea of harm reduction and grasping the ideas of anti racism that are really central to the work that we do at St work.

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00:17:24.840 --> 00:17:31.410

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: that's that's that's so important Thank you so much are they paid employees or or interns.

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00:17:32.370 --> 00:17:46.530

Graciela Razo: Yes, they do receive a stipend I honestly wish that they could be you know, a wage employees, I think that the work that they do is you know far surpasses the stipend that they get.

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00:17:47.550 --> 00:18:03.030

Graciela Razo: But they do get some work experience they do get lots of training from me and one on one supervision, so not only is it something, you know that they can put on their resume but they get training certifications and make it real life work experience as well.

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00:18:03.570 --> 00:18:12.030

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: that's very valuable for young people that that's that first step in the door to the next level of of developing their personal world.

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00:18:12.600 --> 00:18:25.680

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: um I wonder if you could talk for a moment about some of the key challenges or pushback that youth engagement organizations face when they partner with other stakeholders around overdose prevention.

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00:18:27.900 --> 00:18:38.250

Graciela Razo: yeah you know and thinking about this question honestly so many things came to mind, but I think the biggest challenge includes when.

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00:18:39.510 --> 00:18:48.480

Graciela Razo: People are not respecting and honoring the autonomy of folks who use drugs which are key principles of harm reduction right so.

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00:18:48.900 --> 00:18:58.950

Graciela Razo: I think many stakeholders and people who have good intentions, you know are really seeing the answer to the overdose crisis as treatment.

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00:18:59.490 --> 00:19:12.390

Graciela Razo: And I think that's just a piece of the puzzle, and I think we really need to widen our lens as to what overdose prevention is so for us, looking at the picture and the person holistically, we know that.

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00:19:12.840 --> 00:19:19.560

Graciela Razo: Safe accessible and affordable housing is overdose prevention, we know that mental health care is overdose prevention.

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00:19:20.400 --> 00:19:36.960

Graciela Razo: Community and connection are key parts of overdose prevention talking about safe supply and you know, like you mentioned in my intro advocating for safer consumption spaces these things directly.

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00:19:38.220 --> 00:19:40.560

Graciela Razo: address the overdose crisis.

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00:19:41.760 --> 00:19:51.930

Graciela Razo: And I think we can also start to have more conversations about how racism and poverty and policing play a huge role in the overdose crisis.

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00:19:52.710 --> 00:20:05.190

Graciela Razo: So I think starting to widen our lens more to see overdose as this bigger picture and this really societal failure that we are experiencing, as opposed to somebody's personal failure.

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00:20:05.970 --> 00:20:25.980

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: yeah that's a very important perspective to bring in Thank you um I one of the one of the strategies that you use is to normalize discussion around drugs and harm reduction supplies so talk a little bit more about why this is is so critical and doing this work well.

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00:20:28.080 --> 00:20:45.600

Graciela Razo: yeah so I mean I think if somebody is feeling shame or stigma there really is no gateway to talking about safer use, there is no trust to talk about safety planning or overdose prevention, so I think that's street work that's really.

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00:20:46.650 --> 00:20:58.050

Graciela Razo: A big part of the overdose prevention work that we do is to normalize conversations around drug use to normalize conversations around the lock zone and what safer use looks like.

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00:20:58.440 --> 00:21:15.090

Graciela Razo: So everyone on intake is offered in a box on training and HEP C testing and HIV testing and everyone is spoken to about how we offer safer use kits and why we're a syringe exchange program and what that means.

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00:21:16.320 --> 00:21:23.190

Graciela Razo: In the physical space itself where i'm in my office, right now, so you can see right behind me is all of our supplies for us.

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00:21:23.520 --> 00:21:38.550

Graciela Razo: So they're always out for folks to see it's nothing to hide it's nothing, where you know supplies are in a locked cabinet or anything we have supplies out for folks to see to ask questions about and.

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00:21:38.850 --> 00:21:48.810

Graciela Razo: To make it readily accessible for folks and so you know by having these supplies just out for people to see we're really normalizing conversations.

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00:21:49.170 --> 00:22:01.740

Graciela Razo: Around substance use and also in the space we always have information about any fentanyl warnings or any Spikes and overdose that we see in the city, we have.

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00:22:02.730 --> 00:22:16.500

Graciela Razo: You know signs about like asked me about needle exchange and talk to me about in the lock zone, and you know, we have all of these signifiers around the space to let young people know that it's okay to talk about your drug use here.

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00:22:17.250 --> 00:22:23.040

Graciela Razo: We also have groups harm reduction groups where folks can talk about their drug use and in a more.

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00:22:24.480 --> 00:22:37.710

Graciela Razo: informal group settings so folks can also share their experiences with each other so just opening up different venues for us to have those conversations has been you know, a real key piece to overdose prevention for us.

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00:22:38.580 --> 00:22:53.730

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: So let's go a little bit deeper into the area of partnerships and and you know, working with some of the other institutions that are around you how um you know how have you been able to forge a relationship with your local health department.

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00:22:56.730 --> 00:23:08.820

Graciela Razo: Our health department is actually very supportive of the work that we do you know we have meetings with other syringe service programs around the city, so that collaboration is easier.

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00:23:09.780 --> 00:23:22.110

Graciela Razo: We also have partnerships with other syringe service programs within the neighborhood so that we can share information, we can refer clients to one another, so if you know.

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00:23:22.650 --> 00:23:41.310

Graciela Razo: The syringe program down the street is seeing young people coming to their space they can refer them to street work so that they can have a program that's specializes in ucar production and so as far as our health department goes they've been very supportive and.

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00:23:42.720 --> 00:23:46.830

Graciela Razo: yeah just supportive in helping us form connections with other programs.

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00:23:47.910 --> 00:23:58.620

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: And then there's a really good questions just come up before I get to that I wanted to also ask you how have you forge relationships with your local law enforcement agencies.

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00:24:01.980 --> 00:24:19.890

Graciela Razo: Enforcement is tricky for us it's an ongoing conversation, but, to be quite honest, we have not had great interactions with police, especially considering that most of our clients and staff are people of color so it's not.

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00:24:21.930 --> 00:24:31.950

Graciela Razo: it's not a safe strategy to invite police into our space and so because we are a confidential program we don't allow

police into our space.

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00:24:34.650 --> 00:24:41.610

Graciela Razo: You know, over the years we've tried to develop relationships with our local precinct and you know.

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00:24:43.290 --> 00:24:48.390

Graciela Razo: Honestly, we do everything we can to avoid calling the police if we ever need to.

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00:24:50.040 --> 00:24:53.880

Graciela Razo: it's really exciting to see that New York is moving towards.

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00:24:55.110 --> 00:25:13.020

Graciela Razo: Like emergency mental health care services, as opposed to when you call 911 or anything police show up because we've seen how not only dangerous that could be but also how traumatizing it could be for staff and clients.

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00:25:15.090 --> 00:25:33.540

Graciela Razo: So we honestly tried to avoid calling the police, if at all possible, but if we ever have to, we have a safety plan within staff to have a white identified staff member be the person to answer the door.

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00:25:34.980 --> 00:25:45.750

Graciela Razo: To engage with the police if we ever have to, and that safety plan came after a pretty negative experience that we had with law enforcement yeah.

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00:25:46.230 --> 00:25:56.190

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: I think it's important to talk about these things, because everyone who's trying to run a program similar to this or contemplating this is wondering how do they interact with government.

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00:25:56.490 --> 00:26:03.750

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: And, and you know what are some of the good things, and what are some of the challenging things, and how can you build a relationship.

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00:26:04.230 --> 00:26:14.970

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: And that relationship doesn't mean you call them in when you need to quiet somebody down or get rid of somebody but the relationship is something deeper than that it is.

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00:26:16.650 --> 00:26:30.750

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: It is a set of agreements that you form with some of these organizations you know other organizations within government to make sure that your mission is understood and that you're on the street, because you know people need not die.

141

00:26:31.860 --> 00:26:38.640

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: And that you can you know you can help in that way, I think, bringing up the safety plan is also really, really very important, I can see that that's.

142

00:26:40.710 --> 00:26:56.550

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: got to be an important aspect of of this work, I want to get to the question that was brought up because I think it's really an important one, what do you do when young people come into your space, under the influence and what do you do if they purchase all of the space.

143

00:26:57.690 --> 00:27:07.110

Graciela Razo: or yeah so I love this question because you know when we talk about this issue with young people doing intakes they're always kind of surprised by how we answer this.

144

00:27:07.560 --> 00:27:12.180

Graciela Razo: And I think that speaks volumes, so people are allowed to come into our space higher drunk.

145

00:27:12.540 --> 00:27:28.560

Graciela Razo: As long as they can maintain respect for the space right, so we let people know that there is no substance use allowed in the space, except for smoking cigarettes in our backyard and that also now includes cannabis and cannabis has been legalized in New York state.

146

00:27:30.210 --> 00:27:38.580

Graciela Razo: And so we say that off the BAT because a lot of times it is safer for a young person to be hired drunk inside of our space.

147

00:27:38.940 --> 00:27:57.090

Graciela Razo: Where we can monitor them where we can safety plan with them where we can get them water and food and so oftentimes that is a safer are dropping as a safer place to be then for that young person to be outside on the corner by themselves.

148

00:27:59.010 --> 00:28:08.940

Graciela Razo: which might not be a safe thing for them to do and so yeah being hired drunk is not an issue for us again as long as people maintain respect for the space.

149

00:28:09.900 --> 00:28:20.400

Graciela Razo: We also let folks know that people cannot buy or sell anything in the space that includes a cigarette headphones drugs, nothing is sold.

150

00:28:21.180 --> 00:28:36.330

Graciela Razo: or bought in the space, and so we let people know that up front, if anything, should happen like somebody's buying or selling or using in the space we have conversations with those people as to why that's not safe for us here.

151

00:28:38.100 --> 00:28:50.220

Graciela Razo: You know, we can't manage in our small space with a small staff checking bathrooms as often as we would need to if we allow folks to use in our space it's just a safety concern.

152

00:28:50.940 --> 00:28:58.110

Graciela Razo: So we always tell people you know you can take care of yourself and take a walk and then come back you know come right back in.

153

00:28:59.160 --> 00:29:01.800

Graciela Razo: But it's just not safe for folks to use in our space.

154

00:29:02.850 --> 00:29:10.590

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: Well, I really want to thank you for you know, for what you've brought into this conversation I know it's only the beginning of a conversation.

155

00:29:11.010 --> 00:29:24.480

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: But having the connection to you into your work and to the work that we're going to be posting from your Center on this website with this tape in a couple of days, probably by the end by the beginning of next week, hopefully.

156

00:29:25.260 --> 00:29:38.040

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: Everybody who needs to contact you to get some ideas or to really look at the kinds of resources, you offer have a conversation those folks will be able to do that, so I really want to thank you for.

157

00:29:38.640 --> 00:29:46.770

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: You know, for what you have brought into this conversation super important perspective and i'd like to at this point.

158

00:29:48.120 --> 00:29:55.920

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: And also, let me just let me comment that several people in the audience, really, really, thank you for being so honest and for being so um.

159

00:29:56.640 --> 00:30:08.040

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: You know so it's just so candid and in the kinds of things that you shared with us it's not always easy to talk about some of the things that that that you need to bring into the conversation.

160

00:30:09.330 --> 00:30:09.720

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: So.

161

00:30:11.250 --> 00:30:25.320

Graciela Razo: Is my email going to be shared, just because I know it was a short conversation, so if anybody would like to connect with me outside i'm more than happy to chat with anyone who's interested should I put my email in the chat or anything.

162

00:30:25.470 --> 00:30:35.220

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: that's a great idea put it in the chat and we will also put it on to the follow up page that will post that has the tape of this conversation and the slides of this conversation.

163

00:30:35.490 --> 00:30:45.660

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: and also some information that you should be so kind to share with us so before we sign off for today, I just want to point out that, for our next.

164

00:30:46.770 --> 00:30:54.390

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: For our next webinar we're going to have in the in the meat, the partner series a slightly longer conversation with Cindy Cypriot at.

165

00:30:54.960 --> 00:31:06.450

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: Who is the assistant US Attorney for southern California district southern California, a number of people have raised issues about you know just how is the justice system, organized around.

166

00:31:07.800 --> 00:31:15.150

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: Around substance use and what are the different parts and who is this part and what does that part do, and so we thought well let's ask them to talk about that.

167

00:31:15.420 --> 00:31:23.610

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: So Cindy Cypriot he will be with us in this next webinar to talk about it and to also answer your questions and we're hoping for some more.

168

00:31:24.090 --> 00:31:29.220

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: Some more really useful really, really helpful thoughtful conversation and.

169

00:31:29.610 --> 00:31:39.060

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: Having worked with Cindy before she is very thoughtful I think she'll bring a lot to the table, so I hope you all will join us, then, and again thank you so much, go sell it for for your.

170

00:31:39.510 --> 00:31:50.850

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: For your work, for your dedication for the for the passion that you bring to it, I know that all the other youth that you touch really their lives really changed because of you, so thank you for that.

171

00:31:51.390 --> 00:32:04.290

Carmen Nevarez MD MPH: And then just finally everybody here's our webpage be sure that you sign up for the newsletter or you can contact us at the at the contact box and thank you so much for being part of this this very quick session goodbye.